

EXHIBIT

J

Shelly Bloor

From: Will Cochran
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 4:55 PM
To: Chris Williams
Subject: FW: Proposed Third Amended Scheduling Order(100165890.1)

From: Frank Watson <fwatson@watsonburns.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2020 3:12 PM
To: Horton, Odell <ohorton@wyattfirm.com>
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Subject: RE: Proposed Third Amended Scheduling Order(100165890.1)

Odell:

Given your concern about "merits" vs. "class" discovery that you have raised recently with respect to both Mr. Raper's deposition and the Rule 30(b)(6) Notice to Shelby County, I would recommend that the parties dispense with "experts" until after class certification is briefed and ruled upon.

In the context of this case (as opposed to for, example, an antitrust class action), I don't think expert testimony would even be admissible as to class certification and, to the extent experts could somehow be used, these experts would necessarily have to examine the merits of the underlying factual allegations in order to render any opinion relating to the class. (If you believe that I am wrong, please explain to me how experts are relevant in light of bifurcation). In short, I think the parties will avoid any additional fights about merits as well as keep the costs down by dealing with experts later. Naturally, we can get our expert and you can get yours. In my experience, the Judge will simply ignore them in making decisions until the merits come into question. Let me know what you think.

Let me know when we can depose: (i) Ed Raper, (ii) the Rule 30(b)(6) Deposition of Shelby County, (iii) Robert Moore, (iv) Debra Hammons and (v) Bill Oldham. These will need to be taken in the next two months.

Brad Trammell: let me know about the deposition dates for Paul Zigler.

Many thanks

Frank L. Watson, III
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From: Horton, Odell <ohorton@wyattfirm.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2020 2:38 PM

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Frank:

Any thoughts?

Odell

Odell Horton Jr.

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Direct: (901) 537-1082

From: Horton, Odell

Sent: Friday, January 10, 2020 2:46 PM

To: Frank Watson <fwatson@watsonburns.com>

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Frank:

Pursuant to our discussions, attached is a proposed Third Amended Scheduling Order.

We discussed moving the dates 60 days but I pushed each date approximately 80 days. Mike informed us his wife is retiring May 4th and he is unavailable that week. That is the reason for the additional time. I avoided that week and any holidays. I set most deadlines on a Monday or Friday.

The Defendants have approved the dates. Let me know your thoughts.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thank you.

Odell

Odell Horton Jr.

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